

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A recording medium for removably cooperating with any one of a plurality of playback devices, said recording medium comprising:

5 a memory portion ~~that is configured to store~~ for storing content material ~~;~~;

a usage indicator ~~that is configured to record~~ for recording a measure of usage associated with the content material ~~of this recording medium stored in said memory portion~~ ; and

10 a baseline register ~~that is configured to store~~ for storing at least one baseline-usage parameter ~~that facilitates~~ for facilitating a determination of a validity period associated with the content material based on the usage indicator.

2. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

5 the usage indicator includes a counter ~~that is configured to be,~~ said counter being incremented by a playback device when the playback device accesses the content material.

3. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in claim 2, wherein:

the at least one baseline-usage parameter includes
_____a copy of the measure of usage of the recording medium
5 when the content material is stored in the memory portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in
claim 53, wherein:

the at least one baseline-usage parameter also includes
_____a usage limit ~~that facilitates~~ for facilitating the
5 determination of the validity period.

5. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in
claim 2, wherein:

the at least one baseline-usage parameter is stored in the
baseline register in a secure form ~~that facilitates~~ for facilitating
5 a determination of an authenticity of the at least one baseline-
usage parameter.

6. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in
claim 5, wherein:

the at least one baseline-usage parameter is associated
with the content material in a secure form ~~that facilitates~~ for
5 facilitating a determination of an authorization of the content
material.

7. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in
claim 6, wherein:

the content material contains a watermark, and

~~the~~ at least one baseline-usage parameter further includes

5 ~~a ticket that is~~ based on a hash value of the watermark.

8. (Currently Amended) The recording medium ~~of~~ as claimed in
claim 2, wherein:

the at least one baseline-usage parameter includes a

security encoding ~~that is~~ based on a private key of a public-

5 private key pair ~~that is~~ associated with a providing source of the
content material, and

~~the~~ security encoding ~~includes~~ including at least one of:

a digital signature bound to the at least one baseline-
usage parameter, and

10 an encryption of the at least one baseline-usage
parameter.

9-26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method of rendering content material
~~that is~~ stored on a recording medium, the method comprising the
steps:

determining at least one baseline-usage parameter
5 associated with the recording medium;
determining a validity period associated with the content
material based on the baseline-usage parameter;
determining a measure of usage associated with the
recording medium; and
10 rendering the content material in dependence upon the
validity period and the measure of usage.

28. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of~~ as claimed in claim 27,
wherein said method further including comprises the step:

determining an authenticity of the baseline-usage
parameter,

5 and

_____wherein

the rendering of the content material is in further dependence upon
the authenticity of the baseline-usage parameter.

29. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of~~ as claimed in claim 27,
wherein said method further including comprises the step:

decrypting the content material to facilitate said
rendering.

30. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of~~ as claimed in claim 27,
wherein said method further includingcomprises the steps:

determining a ticket value associated with the content
material;i

5 determining a watermark associated with the content
material;i and

comparing a hashed value of the watermark to the ticket
value to determine an authorization associated with the content
material,

10 and

_____wherein

the rendering of the content material is in further dependence upon
the authorization associated with the content material.